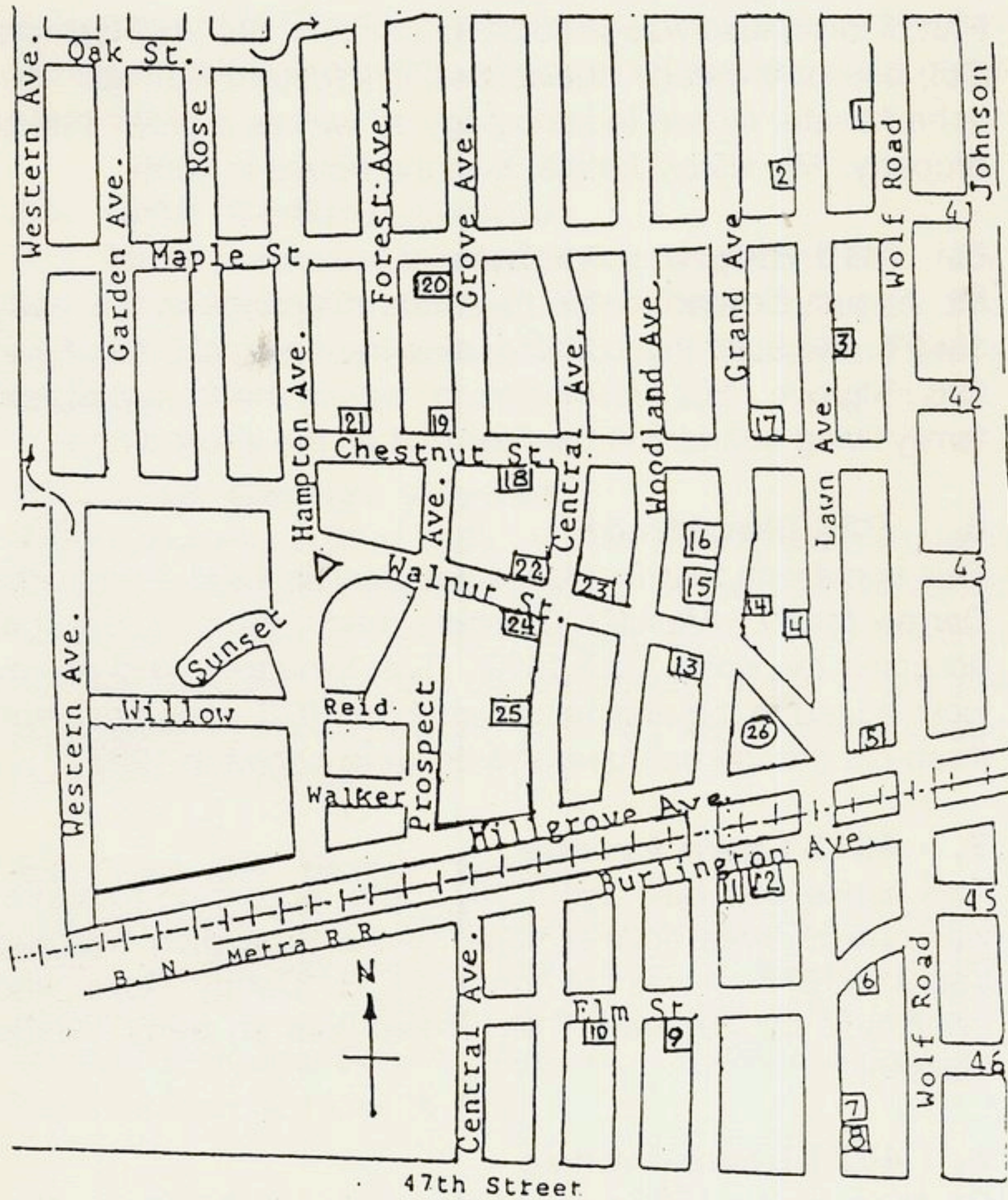


# Self - Guided Walking Tour of Western Springs



1206 Walnut



Western Springs Historical  
Society

**1. 4028 Wolf Road**

As early as 1871 this house was allegedly standing on the present site of the Grand Avenue Community Center, (formerly Grand Avenue School). It served as the school until 1885 when the stone school building was erected. The house was then moved to this location on Wolf Road.

**2. 4064 Lawn Avenue**

The Luther Dana family moved into this house in 1890. It was built in 1888 and received by Mr. Dana in a trade for his farm in Kansas. The house had never been occupied before the Dana family moved in.

**3. 4137 Lawn Avenue**

This was the home of the H.S. Parrish family for many years. They came to Western Springs from Chicago in 1881 and built this house in 1885. Unlike so many older homes in the village this house has had little remodeling.

**4. 4350 Lawn Avenue**

Part of this house was used as an office for the Vive Camera Co., one of the early businesses in Western Springs. Mr. John Atwater owned the company as well as a great deal of property. His sister, Jennie, built the house in 1886.

**5. 810 Hillgrove Avenue**

Mr. August Eckdahl came to Western Springs in the early 1880's. He build this building, also the one just east of it at 808 Hillgrove. His "cobbler shop" was in the front part and family living quarters in the rear and on the second floor.

**6. 825 Elm Street**

This home with four fireplaces was built in 1891 for the Phil Darrow family. After Mr. Darrow's death, the son, George, occupied the home until 1987. The two-story west rooms were added to the original structure in 1910. The deck and three-car garage on the east side were added in 1987.

**7. 4613 Lawn Avenue**

This house was built about 1873 and, according to some, was one of three houses south of the Burlington Railroad tracks in 1878. It was the home of C.H. "Daddy" Rowe who lived here for 29 years. Mr. Rowe was an early Village Marshal.

**8. 4621 Lawn Avenue**

Originally built in 1885 as a sanatorium to which people came from all over the area to rest and drink the "healthful" waters from the village's mineral springs, it became a military academy around 1900 and now is a family residence.

**9. 4558 Grand Avenue**

Built in 1885 by a ship builder for a Mr. Mashall who never lived here, this house was supposedly a replica of an old southern plantation house. It originally had a mansard roof and "widow's walk." Later the house was purchased by Edgar Williams, an engineer with the firm that erected the Tower.

**10. 4558 Woodland Avenue**

This is one of the earliest homes south of the Burlington Railroad built in 1889. It was originally a farm where dairy cows were raised. The milk was sold to many Western Springs residents. The front addition was added in 1961.

**11. 927 Burlington Avenue**

Julius Keil opened a drug store here, where Oberweis Dairy is now located, in 1897. He was best known in this area for his Deep-Well Ginger Ale. His house, now gone, was across the street to the west. There he made the ginger ale in the barn to the rear of his home.

**12. 913—915 Burlington Avenue**

In 1907 Mr. John Henrickson opened his Grocery and Meat Market in the building at 913 Burlington which is now the east end of Casey's Market. (In 1896 he had opened a store at the northwest corner of Wolf and Hillgrove.) In 1926 Mr. Henrickson built the building at 915 Burlington and moved his store there. Casey's originally occupied the building at 915 before expanding.

**13. 4364 Grand Avenue**

This is one of the earliest homes in Western Springs, built in 1873. The original lot included the whole south end of the block. The roof at one time held an elaborately fenced-in lookout or "widow's walk." The Arnolds, early owners of the house, raised chickens and had grafted fruit trees and an extensive garden.

**14. 4351 Grand Avenue**

Originally the Missionary Baptist Church, this house was built in 1895 by John Atwater, owner of the Vive Camera Co., who often preached here. It was remodeled into a private home around 1915. Large dormers, front and rear, were added in 1991.

**15. 4344 Grand Avenue**

This house was built about 1871 by T.C. Hill, the real estate promoter who originally sub-divided the village. In 1886, when the village was incorporated, Mr. Hill, a Quaker, was its first president. He also served as its first postmaster in 1873. The house was bought in 1904 by E.C. Patterson who was the first village Fire Marshal. He was a nationally known leader in advertising and amateur sports with a special interest in automobiles and auto racing.

**16. 4326 Grand Avenue**

An early owner of this house, built in 1871, was Mary Jane Banker who came to Western Springs with her son, Burt, in 1879. The old door marker, engraved with the Banker name, can be seen at the Historical Society Museum.

**17. Grand Avenue Community Center**

(formerly Grand Avenue School)

The school was built in 1885 before Western Springs was officially a village. In 1887 a kindergarten was started. There were only seven grades in the school until 1914. The 8th graders went to Lyons Township School before that time. As was customary in those days, music was played while the children marched into school. The school was closed in 1981 and opened as a Community Center in 1986.

**18. 1215 Chestnut Street**

What is now the Masonic Temple was originally the Swedish Methodist Chapel. Swedish residents of Western Springs, led by Mrs. Christina Johnson, supplied the funds to complete this church building in 1893.

**19. 4220 Grove Avenue**

Originally a four-room frame house this house built in 1895 was deserted for several years in the late 1890s and had the reputation of the neighborhood "haunted" house. It was bought in 1904 by Robert McClelland who remodeled it extensively and lived there with his family for many years. Reportedly the maid, using her engagement diamond, scratched her name on the glass window in the kitchen, visible to this day. New additions in 1990 were the sun room on the south plus a room on the north.

**20. 4132 Grove Avenue**

The first deed for this house to Asa D. Woodman was dated July 28, 1873, but it was probably built in the early 1870s or late 1860s. By 1885 Mr. and Mrs. Asa Kelsey were owners of this house. The property surrounding the house was an apple orchard and extended west for at least a block.

**21. 1338 Chestnut Street**

Early owners of this house were the Sweet family who came to Western Springs in 1877. Built in 1893, the house's original front door was on the north side. There is a dumbwaiter in the house that was used to take wood from the basement to the first and second floor fireplaces. Stained glass windows in its newest addition came out of the early house.

**22. 1206 Walnut Street**

Mr. William B. Wickersham built this house in 1892. He was Secretary of the Chicago Public Library and also a Village Trustee. A subsequent owner, Mr. Samuel Winternitz, an auctioneer, had a small zoo of monkeys and deer with a pond for ducks and swans behind the garage.

**23. 1110 Walnut Street**

This house is very similar to the house at 4356 Central which is on the southwest corner opposite. Both were built in 1871 by families bearing the name, Hadley: The John R. & Seth S. Hadleys. Mr. Charles Brock-Jones, who came to Western Springs in 1889, owned the house as well as the entire block around it.

**24. 4356 Central Avenue**

H.G. Terrell purchased this 1871 house in about 1881. Mrs. Terrell was the mother-in-law of Benezette Williams. She was a Quaker and very active in the early Society of Friends Church.

**25. 4380 Central Avenue**

This house was built in 1888 by Benezette Williams, one of the earliest settlers of Western Springs, on the site of an earlier house which had burned in the early 1880s. Mr. Williams was the engineer who laid out the sewers of the village and also designed the water works and the Tower. He was Village President 1897-1898.

**26. The Old Water Tower**

The Old Water Tower, Tower Green on Hillgrove, was built in 1892. It originally housed the Village Offices and Police Department and in 1970 became the home of the Western Springs Historical Society Museum. It was designated a National Historic Place in 1981.

**Western Springs Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 139**

**Western Springs, IL 60558**

